OLD ENGLAND.

By ARGUS CENTOCULI, *Inſpector-General of* Great-Britain.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1749. [N°. 302.]

Indulget fortima multis ——

AMONG other Indelicacies of Phraſe in our Language, I think nothing requires the Hand of Correction more than that of *broken Tradeſman*. It conveys a contemptible Idea of the Patient, and is highly injurious to his Character and future Credit, not only among thoſe who are better learned in the *Art and Miſtery* of ſtanding their Ground, but among all Ranks and Orders of Men, who ſhun his Converſation like Infection. I have often conſidered a Man, who has failed in Trade, in the ſame Light as a Woman who has loſt her Honor. As the whole Train of Females make a Point of decrying a Guilt in Public, which perhaps very few of them could have reſiſted in the ſame Circumſtances of Conſtitution, Temptation, and Opportunity, which their fallen Siſter had been under. So the collective Body of the Brethren of the *Counter* and Till lift up their righteous Eyes in Cenſure againſt the luckleſs Man who practiced the *Legerdemain* of the Weight and Scales leſs ſucceſsfully than themſelves.

The *Dutch*, who I believe few People conſider as the politeſt People in the World, ſoften the coarſe Term I am complaining of, into that of a Man who has *miſreckoned* in his Accounts: Nay, the ancient Citizens of *London*, expreſſed themſelves in the like Caſe with a becoming Tenderneſs, according to the Degree of the Lapſe. He, who had only abſented himſelf occaſionally, was genteelly ſaid to have *been gone aſide*; while the Man, who abdicated his Shop, was treated a little more coarſely in Diſcourſe under the hopeleſs Term of *going off*.

I would fain recommend to the *upright* Dealers, under the various *Arts and Miſteries* in this ancient City of *London*, the Practice of their *Dutch* Brethren in Trade, or the Revival of the more gentle Terms of their own Anceſtors, with reſpect to thoſe who have proved unſucceſsful in the Enterprize of Trade and Dealing; as to ſpeak of Things as they really are is not only unpolite, but leaves a Stigma behind rendered frequently indelible by Time, and therefore requires as much to be exploded, as that of burning Criminals in the Face did, and for the ſame Reaſon; for what can be more diſcouraging to Men who have their Lives to begin again, and frequently in far different Profeſſions than what they were in before! Tho' by Impriſonment a Man may be carrying on the Occupation he had exerciſed in the Days of his Liberty; yet, by the Aſſiſtance of *Jacob*'s and *Bohun*'s moſt ingenious Treatiſes of Practice in the Law, they make a wonderful Progreſs in that abſtruſe Science, ſo as to add *honorably* to the Number of Attornies and Sollicitors, on their Redemption, by the next comfortable *Act of Inſolvency* that may happen, from the Captivity of the *Fleet* or the *King's Bench*. Theſe collegiate Receptacles are obſerved to have a wonderful Effect on the Faculties of a Student under the wholeſome Diſcipline of Confinement, and produce Practitioners of great Account out of Bankrupts and Inſolvent Debtors, which, together with Counſellors Clerks, and ſome other Irregulars, are ſaid to compoſe the Bulk of that honorable Profeſſion, which is not only very lucrative in itſelf, but has the Advantage of the Title of *Gentleman* annexed to it: A great Incitement this to an ingenious Mind to paſs from the Counter thro' a Jail into Dignities and better Bread.

This is generally the Proviſion which attends on thoſe who have paſſed thro' the Diſcipline of *Bankruptcy* or *Superſedeas*, for Want of Proſecution; but there is another Species of People in Trade, who, endued with the Sagacity and Forecaſt of the Art, keep up imperceptibly againſt the Conſequences of a *ſtormy Day*. They are called on the *Royal Exchange* by the Name of *Creſſnerians*. Theſe induſtrious People diſtinguiſh themſelves from the more thoughtleſs Followers of Trade, by accumulating into their own Poſſeſſion vaſt Quantities of Goods from the Stocks of their Neighbours upon Credit, and getting in all the Caſh they can draw into their Hands. The firſt they conſign into *ſafe Cuſtody*, and the laſt they convert into Bank Notes or other portable Bills of Credit proper for the Tour of *Europe*. As Jewellers frequently carry all their Wealth in a little narrow Pocket in the Sleeve, ſo the *Creſſnerians* find means to make a ſmall Pocket Book contain not only what they are worth themſelves, but likewiſe the Spoils of all their Neighbours.

Aware of the ill Conſequences of *Abdication*, they take an early Opportunity to propoſe *prudent* Terms of Accommodation to thoſe who have conceived ſo good an Opinion of their Integrity as to honor them with their *Confidence*; inſomuch, that they ſometimes generouſly offer a Man to the full Amount of a whole Sixth of his own, provided the Conduct and Diſpoſition of the remaining five Parts are left to them. There is an Inſtance of the Folly of ſome impertinent Creditors, who have rejected ſuch advantageous Conditions, and choſen rather to loſe all than that the *Creſſnerian* Fraud ſhould paſs unpuniſhed; and therefore have imprudently run a Commiſſion of Bankruptcy into *Felony* againſt a *miſtaken* Delinquent, who, reſenting the Indignity put upon his liberal Offer of Compoſition, grows obſtinate in his Turn, and chuſes rather to ſit at the Feaſt of *Damocles*, under the Terrors of the *Halter*, than ſubmit to refund what his Wit and Ingenuity had put into his Poſſeſſion, and ſo be reſtored into his Country to be ſtigmatized in the Streets as a *broken Tradeſman*.

In ſuch a Caſe, it would be worthy a Genius in Fraud to trip away into *Italy*, to convince the Inhabitants there, that Deceit and Treachery are not peculiar to thoſe Regions alone; and that the *Art and Miſtery* of a *Creſſnerian* greatly exceed the Refinements of the moſt ſubtle *Alchymiſt*. If a plauſible Project for a Manufactory ſhould happen to fall ſhort of Expectation, and, inſtead of facilitating the *Legerdemain*, throw the Artiſt into a Jail, I ſee no Reaſon he has to deſpond, if all the Powers of *Italy* are in the ſame Way of Thinking with the compaſſionate Monarch of ** and ***, who generouſly relieves all *honeſt* Debtors, againſt the moſt *unreaſonable* Expectations of impertinent Creditors, by ſuch a Caſt of his Pen as undoubtedly renders him very dear to his Subjects.

As theſe adventurous *Knights of the Halter* are generally Men of Genius and Fineſſe, I think that notwithſtanding they are excluded by a Bankrupt *Proſcription* from ſerving their Country at home, they are not unworthy of Employment, for the Good of the Community they have forſaken, abroad: and therefore I take upon me to pronounce, that a Perſon in that Situation would make an excellent Miniſter at a foreign Court; as he may exerciſe his Function free from the Terrors of the *Halter* that threatens him at home, ſave what may ariſe now and then from the Impertinence of Reflection only. Whoever has the Honor to be the Patron of ſuch a diſtinguiſhing Miniſter, muſt be the Object of Admiration from every Side: Nor leſs he, whoſe facil Nature is prevailed upon to procure him Letters of Credence from that very Hand which the Law directs to ſign his Death-Warrant. Vaſt is the Applauſe due to the noble Pen that condeſcends to correſpond with a Felon! Thrice honorable the Council that debate on his Diſpatches!

Such an Appointment is not new as it is a Matter recent among us, that a Prime Miniſter in the laſt Age, finding a common Felon in *Newgate* of an apt *Creſſnerian* Genius, and conſequently fit for his Purpoſe, equipt him in the Quality of Envoy-*Extraordinary* to *Spain*, to break open the Cabinet of *Olivarez*, and ſteal away his Diſpatches. But however, tho' he was under a ſevere Prohibition from making free with any thing elſe, he could not reſiſt the natural Impulſe he was under of pocketing a Caſe of very rich Jewels for his own private Benefit, and aſſigned a much better Reaſon for improving upon his Inſtructions, than ſome M***rs can for making free in the like Manner with his M***y's Exchequer. ——But it would be doing very neighbourly, and according to the Golden Rule, to apprize a certain Eccleſiaſtical Prince to take Care of his Purſe; excepting only the Biſhop of *Liege*, who does not deſerve it of us, as his perfidious Conduct in letting in the *French* upon our Backs, preparatory to a late Battle near that City, in the Courſe of our *Succeſſes* during the laſt War in *Flanders*, ought not only to be remembered according to the true *Chriſtian* Principles of the Times, but returned alſo. I ſhould think therefore a Miniſter of this Complexion might revenge our public Injuries by a more delicate Stroke of Dexterity than ever the famous *Fawkes* was Maſter of.

One inſuperable Objection indeed occurs on this Head, for ſuch a Perſon would be in no wiſe fit to repreſent the Perſon of M*j*y. The late Capt. *Avery*, or any other Pirate, might have done it as properly. Who defrauds, robs, and plunders, the King's Subjects ought not to be put in *Confidence* under him. But I would remedy this Difficulty by a humble Propoſal, that he may repreſent the Perſon of his Prime Miniſter only; for which I think he would be ſo extremely well qualified, that no Objection could be well founded againſt him.

Were I to be preſent at the Introduction of ſuch a Miniſter, I muſt confeſs, with honeſt *Teague*, that the broad Laugh would come upon my Face ſo powerfully as I ſhould not be able to contain myſelf within the Rules of Decency. As all the Stuff and Implements of the Kitchin occurred to the Memory of that faithful Servant in the Midſt of his Addreſs to Mrs. *Day*, ſo the Sight of ſuch a Mock-Miniſter would open to my View a Medley of Currants, Raiſins, Figs, Sugars, and the whole Syſtem of Grocery, intermixed with a Load of promiſſory Notes un-

paid, Draughts upon the Bank received, Commissions of Bankruptcy, foreign Bills and *Italian* Schemes, Credentials and Patron *Services*.

As every *broken Tradesman*, who has the Prudence to withdraw with his own and his Neighbour's Effects beyond Sea, in Defiance of the Checks of Conscience and the Laws relating to Bankrupts, becomes capable of Preferment abroad, in the Service of the Country wherein he was born, and afterwards sold for a *valuable Consideration*, the most profligate Spoiler has no Occasion to despair of being put into a Condition to insult his just Creditors, mock the Laws of the Realm and the Majesty of a K*, *against whose Crown and Dignity he has offended*, if he watch s carefully for an Opportunity to gratify the Avarice of some *unbearded* Negociator, in his political Ramble on the Continent. *Waite*, who defrauded the *Bank*, has lost his Turn of Preferment abroad, by returning home to be taken: But Comptroller *Bell* of the *Post-Office*, if he is still beyond Sea, stands fair to be remembered the next Vacancy among the little Courts of G*m*ny. 'Tis therefore hoped, that as a *broken Tradesman* becomes frequently a Gentleman at home, and acquires the Title of *Excellency* abroad, that the disgraceful Term will be totally forgotten among us for the future.

To the AUTHOR, *&c.*

In Answer to some ungenerous Verses lately inserted in the London Evening Post, *against a great and worthy Character.*

When *Rome* no more her antient Fame cou'd boast,
Her Trophies sullied, and her Glory lost;
Saw faithless Sons her dearest Rights invade,
Freedom insulted, and the Laws betray'd;
Saw o'er her Head display'd the threatning Sword,
And young *Octavius* act the haughty Lord,
While mercenary Bards assist his Sway,
Swarm o'er the Land, and on their Country prey;
Saw abject Hands in Government employ'd,
Honors by them, and them alone, enjoy'd;
Outcasts of either Party closely join'd,
And Power and Places to themselves confin'd;
Virtue and Worth shut out by cringing Art,
And *Roman* Spirit warm no *Roman* Heart ——
Indignant from this Scene, lo! *Tully* flies,——
Tully the learn'd, the eloquent, the wise!——
He flies — unable to assist the State,
And finds at *Tusculum* a mild Retreat.
So *Britain's Tully*, long his Country's Pride,
All other Means to aid it now deny'd,
Retires far distant; and his only Care
Another P—— y, like himself, to rear.

LONDON.

We hear that in about three Weeks will be published, addressed to the worthy Electors of Westminster, an historical Print in two Plates, representing the whole Life and Character, Birth, Parentage, and Education, Ingratitude and Prostitution, Politics and Dissimulation, Servility and Meanness, &c. &c. of *ESQUIRE DISMAL*, formerly Surgeon in Pallmall, but now one of the Managers of the French Players, and Agent in Chief for a certain Election. Price 1 s. each Plate. Printed for Mademoiselle la Verité and to be had at the several Pamphlet Shops of London and Westminster.

On Saturday the 24th ult. died of a Consumption, Mrs. Annesley, Wife to the Hon. James Annesley, Esq; the Gentleman who claims the Estate and Honors of the Earl of Anglesea; and was buried on the Friday following in St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, in the same Vault with Lady Altham, Mr. Annesley's Mother.

At a Meeting on Wednesday of a great Number of the trading Inhabitants of the City and Liberty of Westminster at the Sun Tavern in King Street, it was unanimously agreed that the Petition then read, signed by about 1400 of the said trading Inhabitants, Should be delived to Sir Peter Warren, and proper Persons were then appointed out of the respective Parishes to attend him with the same and in the Name of the Inhabitants then present to request, that he would be pleased to present the said Petion to Parliament; for a Bill for the more easy and speedy Recovery of small Debts within the said City and Liberty.

The Counsel Employed on Account of the Scrutiny in St. Anne's Vestry, between Lord Trentham and St. George Vandepot, Bart, have had so many Debates about setling divers Points on which the Election is like to turn, that they have not yet began to examine who are the legal Voters in the several Parishes in the City and Liberty of Westminster; and we hear the Right of Election will be at last determined in the House of Commons.

Monday 40 Boys educated at Christ-hospital were by the President of the same presented to his Majesty.

We hear that the Earl of Sutherland and Lord Cathcart are Candidates for one of the sixteen Peers of Scotland, in the room of the Earl of Craufurd deceased.

General John Campbell. Member of Parliament for the Shire of Argyll, will, we hear, succeed the Earl of Crawfurd as Colonel of the Regiment of Scots Gray Dragoons.

Richard Lloyd, Esq; is appointed a Lieutenant in the Earl of Rothes Regiment of Dragoons, in the room of Lieutenant Campbell, who is preferr'd to the Degree of Captain in the said Regiment.

The Lord Viscount Gornock, Nephew to the late Earl of Craufurd, succeeds him in Title and Estate in Scotland.

Sir Thomas Robinson, Master of the Great Wardrobe, has ordered it to be removed from Montagu House to the House, (late Lord Manson's) in Albemarle-street.

For some Nights past several Gardners were robbed in and about Chealsea; whereupon one of the Gardner's Men planted a Musket Breast high, in the usual Manner, to detect the Thieves, and on Sunday Night a Man was found shot near that Place, who proved to be a Bricklayer.

We hear there is to be a Call of Serjeants of Law the next Term.

On Thursday and Yesterday 7-Night last, between the Hours of Eight and Ten, appeared N. N. W. a Comet larger than a Star of the first Magnitude; it was of the hairy Kind, and without a Tail.

William Nicholas, Esq; the wholesale Woollen Draper in Cornhill, who died last Week, has left his Estate said to be worth 150000 l. amongst his Relations.

The Lords of the Admiralty have ordered the Carpenters and Joiners lately discharged from Plymouth Yard to be employed again, several of the large Ships being to be cut down, in order to render them more serviceable for Cruizing.

On Saturday a Duel was fought between two Gentlemen of Distinction near Marybone, at Sword and Pistol; one of the Gentlemen was Shot in the Left Side, He was immediately carried home to his House near Soho, where he continues dangerously ill.

Last Monday Night a young Woman was run over by a Dray on London-Bridge, whereby her Thighs were broke. She was carrying to the Hospital but died by the Way in the Arms of some Men supporting her thither.

It is calculated, that the Consumption of Oxen in London is about 1000 a Week, for which Purpose about 8000 drove up in the Fields adjacent to all Parts of the Town.

The Monument of the late Thomas Thynne. Esq; who was assassinated in the Haymarket in King William's Reign is taken down in Westminster Abby, and is to be beautified and put up again at the South Side of that Cathedral, near the Stairs which lead up to the Organ Gallery.

Last Monday Evening an Engraver and two Printsellers were taken into Custody of some Messengers, for vending obscene Prints

Three Captains under custody of the Marshal of the Admiralty, have obtained their Paroles of Honor, to appear on their Trials at Deptford.

The principal Persons concerned in transporting the Woollen and Silk Manufactures abroad, are all admitted to Bail.

Extract of a Letter from Savannah in Georgia, dated October 2.

" This Afternoon the Charles Town Galley, Capt. Peter Bogg, with sundry German Protestants, and our worthy Minister, the Rev. Mr. Zouberbuckler, arrived all in good Health." They sailed from England in July before.

We hear that Richard Middleton, Esq; of Chirkcastle, is rechosen Member of Parliament for the Town of Denbigh.

There is Advice in Town, that the Ship of Capt. Applegreen, laden with Deals, Tar, &c bound to the Mediterranean, was lost on Falsterborne near the Sound.

Translation of a Letter sent by the Indian Prince or Chief to the English Governor of Chebucto.

" Lieutenant of thy King!

" The Place where thou are, the Place thou lodgest in, the Place thou dost fortify, the Place thou desirest to make thyself Master of, that Place is mine. I sprung from this Land, like the Grass. I. who am a Savage was born here, and my Fathers before me. This Land is my Inheritance; I swear it is; the Land which God gave to be my Country, for ever and ever. I here tell thee plainly the Thoughts of my Heart concerning thee; for know that the Works thou makest at Chebucto afford me Matter for serious Reflection. My King, and thy King over the great Waters, have agreed upon a certain Distribution of Land therefore are at Peace, For my own Part, I can neither enter into an alliance, nor make Peace with thee. Shew me where I, an Indian, can retire to. 'Tis thou who drivest me away. Shew me the Place where thou wouldest that I take Refuge. Thou hast possessed thyself of almost all this Country insomuch that Chebucto is my last Refuge. Yet thou envies me that Spot, and wouldest drive me even from thence. This shews, that thou wilt force me never to cease to make War against thee; and never to think of an Alliance. Thou glorieft in thy great Number, and in thy Fortifications. For myself who have but a small Number of Men, I cannot do better than trust in my God, who must judge between us. The Worm which creepeth, knows how to defend itself when attacked. Surely I, savage as I am, am better than a Worm; and must know how to defend myself when attacked, I shall come to see thee soon; nay, trust me, I will see thee; and hope that what I shall then hear from thine own Mouth, will afford me some Comfort. I greet thee well."

Extract of a Letter from Algiers, Nov. 21.

" Immediately after the Departure of our Ambassador for England an Embargo was laid on all Shipping, in order to the fitting of our Xebeques and Ships: The former are returned, and have brought in a new ship built at Dantzick, of upwards of 800 Tons. 26 Guns and 40 Men, bound to Cadez, called Augusta, the third, King of Poland, laden with Masts, Planks, Pipe-staves, Wax, and Linnen a Genoese Vessel, with Arms and Iron from St. Andera, to Cadiz; a small Portuguese Vessel with Casks and some Woollen Goods; a small Genoese Vessel with Wine and Brandy; and a French Brig, with Powder and Arms, bound to Guiney. The Turks pretend the Vessels fired upon them, and have confiscated the Cargo. Three of the Xebecks Crews were ashore on one of the Canary Islands, and surprized a small Part. but were soon obliged to take to their Vessels, with the Loss of near 40 of their People, and their Commodore, who was killed; however, they brought off 21 Slaves, On the 17th four ships and two small Xebeques sailed from heene on a Cruize. There remains a new 60 Gun ship lately launched, and the Dantzick Prise, which is designed to be fitted out with 60 Guns"

The Santa Theresa de Carmo, Capt. Emanual Martini des Santos, who failed from Lisbon the 15th of November with the rest of the Fleet for Rio de Janeiro, is returned, dismasted, having met exceeding bad Weather.

They write from Winchcomb in Gloucestershire, that a few Days ago an old Gentlemen who wrote his Name C. Nelme, died at a Farm House in that Neighbourhood: It is said he was 108 Years of Age; had no Relation that he knew of; was used to pay every Quarter for his Board but never gave any other Account of himself or Family, than that he was descended from the Kings of Mercia, one of whom built Winchcomb Church, and a Monastry adjacent to it.

An Armed Vessel belonging to the Genoese, has taken a Turkish Rover on the Coast of Sardinia, and carried her into the Port of Genoa, the 20th past.

There is an Account that a Skirmish happened at Erfort in Germany, between the Imperial Garrison there, and the Students, wherein several Soldiers were killed; but by the prudent Management of the Magistrates, &c. the Riot was soon quell'd.

It is said that the Dey of Algiers had given Orders to all the Captains of Ships belonging to the Northern Powers, particularly to Sweden and Denmark.

They write from Hamburgh, of the 3d of Jan. that a neighbouring Prince had formed a Scheme to establish an East India Company to trade there, under the Protection of his Flag, and to grant them other very advantageous Privilegas. These Letters add, that the Affairs of the North seem'd to remain in an uncertain State. But the Letters from Stockholm of the 23d of Dec. say, that the Russian Minister had received Dispatche. from his Court about Compromising the differences subsisting betwen that Court and that of Stockholm.

There is an Account from Francfort, that the French continue to assemble their Troops in Alsace, and that Magazines were erecting for their Subsistence.

They write from Holland, that the new Taxation by Collection does not much please the Publick; they are inclined to a Plan of a Lottery of Ten Guilders Yearly which was last Year proposed to them; by which all sorts of People are able to support their Country, with an Expectation of a Fortune, and to have a Satisfaction to see their Money come in for that Purpose, &c.

The Solomon, from Vera Cruz to Cadiz, having on board 700000 Dollars, Indigo, &c. is put into Lisbon in a miserable Condition, after having been 140 Days at Sea and about four Months of the Time without any Masts; seven or eight Galleons in Company with her were all dismasted, and separated by a Storm, which happened six Days after they sailed from Vera Cruz.

The Great Britain, Capt. Hicks, a Ship of 500 Tons, bound from Riga for London, is lost near the Sound; but the People are all saved.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, Dec. 29 They write from Aberdeen, that last Week at a general Meeting of the Commissioners of

Supply from that County, it was unanimously resolved to oppose, by all lawful Methods, any attempts that might be made towards obtaining a new Law for augmenting of Ministers Stipends; and that a standing Commitee was appointed to execute their Resolutions; and agreed that at next Quarter Sessions they would put in execution the Law anent Servants Wages, the Time of seeing and obliging them to full their Service.

On the 7th ult. died in the 74th Year of her Age, Dame Anne Musgrave, Lady of Sir William Grierson of Lag, Bart,

About same Time died at Glenbeviere near Aberdeen, the Lady of Sir William Nicholson of that Place, Bart. And

On Friday 7-Night died in King's College, Old Aberdeen, Brodie, Brother to the Laird of Mureik, Lieutenant of the Orford Man of War. His Fortune, which is considerable, he has left to Mureik's Daughters.

FOREIGN AFFIRS.

ITALY.

Venice, Dec. 24. By the last Advices which we have received from Constantinople, we are informed, that the new Ambassador of Persia meets with greater obstructions than he expected in his Negociations.

Since the Arrival of that Minister, the Port have receiv'd Intelligence that the Grand Mogul is making great warlike Preparations, and that he has already fomented great Divisions and Disturbances at Koulikan, that the Pretender to the Throne of Persia who had been Prisoner at the Isle of Rhodes ever since the Conclusion of the Treaty of Peace between the Grand Signior and Thamas Kouli-Kan has made his Escape; and that he is actually at the Head of a Party; that the Sophi was sorely embarrassed, and knew not well how to extricate himself out of the Difficulties in which he was involved.

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(Price Two Shillings)

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